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IN BRIEF

Ornithology in the Malagasy Faunal Region

In my article 'Fifty years of ornithology in the Malagasy Faunal Region' (*Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl.* 1980: 100(1): 76-80) I omitted mention in the last paragraph under *Madagascar* of any publication in *Arnoldia* (*Rhod.*). Two containing significant information, both by M. P. Stuart Irwin and myself, are: 5(33), 1972, dealing with *Pachycoccyx audeberti*; and 7(17), 1975, in which the genus *Crossleyia* is resuscitated and returned to the Timaliidae from the Pycnonotidae.

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Dunlin *Calidris alpina* breeding in China

Voous (1960) describes the breeding distribution of Dunlin *Calidris alpina* as almost circum-polarly holarctic, the most southerly breeding area being the British Isles. Occasionally, however, Dunlin breed further south than this. Abel Chapman shot a bird off a C/4 at Jerez de la Frontera, Andalucia, Spain on 24 April 1872. This clutch is in the Seebohm collection at the British Museum (Natural History) Tring (reg.no. 1901.1.1.5002-5-M. Walters, pers.comm.) and was recorded by Seebohm (1888).

In China, the Dunlin is not regarded as a breeding species (Cheng 1976 and pers.comm.). Jones (1911) however suggested that Dunlin may breed in the locality of Wei Hai Wei (Shantung peninsula), although proof of this has been lacking. A series of Dunlin skins from the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, was examined by me which included a pullus obtained at Tsingtao, Shantung on 7 May 1927 by Rufus H. Lefevre (reg. no. 108004). P. J. Morgan (National Museum of Wales) and I estimated the pullus to be about 2½-3 weeks old and incapable of flight. R. M. de Schauensee (Academy of Natural Sciences) assures me that the specimen label is reliable, so that there can be no doubt as to the authenticity of the specimen.

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